

lish a revenue for his country, on a sure foundation, and to render it solvent, than all the Congresses and Senates that have existed since 1823. To the above decrees are added many exceptions from the taxes imposed, explanations, directions for collection, &c. &c. In the preamble to the decree, first quoted, His Excellency founds it upon the necessity of changing the old vicious system, injurious to commerce, and monstrously expensive in collection, and the duty of every citizen to contribute to the support of government, according to his means.

With respect to the "monstrous" charges of collection, under the old system, I think it right to quote here what Don Francisco Lombardo says in his "memoria" of 1839. While speaking of the injurious and demoralizing effects of the internal duties on commerce, he remarks:—"The cost of collection may be calculated at 19 per cent, which no civilized nation spends in the collection of its revenues, while even amongst ourselves, it is observed that the branches of the first class depending upon the maritime custom houses, which assuredly are organized with little economy, have only absorbed about 10 per cent in their collection."

If the latter absorb 10 per cent, it is clear there must be expenses, not stated in the "memorias," from which table (c) was

formed. It will be seen, that I estimated the whole cost of collection, at only 3½ per cent—vide note 4.

It will be no less curious than interesting to know the result of the new financial scheme, adopted by Santa Anna. If the duties imposed be faithfully paid, I have no doubt, the amount will be very large, and if, His Excellency would only try during the term of his presidency, a reduction of import duties to 22 or 23 per cent, *ad valorem*, in the whole, as recommended by the Minister of Finance Don Francisco Arillaga, so far back as 1823, and the total abolition of all internal duties on goods which have paid those of importation; also, the abolition of all duties whatever on the export of Gold and Silver Coin, and of all on bars and ingots beyond what duty would equal the Mint charges for coinage, I feel confident that the civic crown of His Excellency would eclipse his military laurels,—that he would really regenerate his country, purge it of *contraband* and its *perjured* supporters, promote industry, wealth and contentment everywhere, and hand his name down to posterity, not only as the asserter of Mexican Independence, but as the founder of Mexican greatness and prosperity.

I now come to a subject where I think the advisers of His Excellency have recom-

mended to him a course neither promotive of his glory, nor of the prosperity of the 7,433,724 fellow citizens, who have to respect and obey him as their Chief Magistrate.

What I allude to is the prohibition of those coarse cotton and woollen goods that are most used by the poor, in order to promote domestic manufactures of the same articles made here, at treble the price, by foreign machinery, and under the direction of foreign workmen, and carried on, in several instances, on foreign account.

It will scarcely be believed in Europe, that Mexico, with a littoral of land, on both its extended coasts, of from 10 to 20 leagues, as fertile and productive as any in the United States, or India, and as fit for the cultivation of the richest tropical productions, known in those countries, with labour cheaper than the slave labour of the United States, should not pursue a policy tending as its first and greatest interest, to call into existence a wealth immeasurably beyond what it has ever derived from all its mines, in the epoch of their greatest prosperity, and capable of turning what is called the *balance of trade*, in its favour, with all those manufacturing nations who can supply its half-clad population at the lowest prices. Yet such is the case!

TABLE—No. 3.
Referred to in our No. 12.

POPULATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MEXICO,
AS RENDERED BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE
OF GEOGRAPHY, AND STATISTICS TO
THE SUPREME GOVERNMENT, in 1839.

Departments.	Inhabitants in 1839.
Mexico,	1,389,520
Jalisco,	679,111
Puebla,	661,902
Yucatan,	580,984
Guanajuato,	513,606
Oaxaca,	500,278
Michoacan,	497,906
San Luis Potosi,	321,840
Zacatecas,	273,575
Vera Cruz,	254,380
Durango,	162,618
Chihuahua,	147,600
Sinaloa,	147,000
Senora,	124,000
Chiapas,	141,206
Queretaro,	120,560
Nuevo Leon,	101,108
Tamaulipas,	100,068
Coahuila,	75,340
Agua Calientes,	69,693
Tabasco,	63,580
Nuevo Mexico,	57,026
Upper and Lower California,	33,439
Texas,	27,800
Total,	7,044,140

Notes.—As the members of the Institute fix the yearly increase of population at 1 and 4-5ths per 100, or 127,528 and 11-100ths yearly, adding that augmentation for the years 1840, 1841, and 1842, the whole population may now be fairly considered to be 7,433,724 and 33-100ths—or upwards.

It has been always observed, that in the Departments nearest the Equator, or where the heat is greatest, the number of females exceeds that of the males, and the number of males exceeds that of the females, as you proceed North.
Mexico, November 1843. R. C. WYLLIE.

TABLE—No. 4.
Referred to in our No. 12.

ESTIMATE OF THE WEALTH OF THE MEXICAN REPUBLIC, AS IT APPEARS IN BULLETIN No. 1, OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF GEOGRAPHY AND STATISTICS, PRESENTED TO THE SUPREME GOVERNMENT, in 1839.

By a Statistical Report, by Captain Don Jose Maria Quiros, Secretary to the ("Consulado") Chamber of Commerce of Vera Cruz, and read to a "Junta" of the Government, on the 24th of January, 1817, the yearly production of the National Industry was calculated as follows, viz:—

Agriculture, { Products consumed in the interior, \$133,352,625	
do. { do. exported,	4,997,196
Industry, { By the term is meant trades, and handiworks, &c.	61,011,818
Mines,	27,951,000
Total,	\$227,312,539

But the authors say, that as the value of lands, houses, trade and commerce, has greatly increased since 1817, "they calculate the whole yearly production of the national industry to be (in 1839) at least \$300,000,000," representing, at 5 per cent, a capital of six thousand millions of dollars.

Notes.—In proof of this great increase in the value of property, they add the particulars of four estates sold in 1790, and valued in 1829, as follows, viz:—

Estate Sold in 1790.		Do. Valued in 1829.	
No.	Price.	No.	Value.
1	\$55,000	1	\$105,000
2	\$47,600	2	\$63,600
3	\$36,000	3	\$66,000
4	\$26,300	4	\$46,000
	\$165,300		\$275,600

The authors add, that "the Government, with such ample means to work upon, might easily adopt a system of contributions which would with great advantage supercede the ephemeral and discredited system to which they were then reduced."

This is, indeed, very evident, for a tax of 5 per cent, upon \$300,000,000 of yearly income, or of 1-4 per 100 on \$600,000,000 value of property, would produce \$15,000,000 yearly, which amount, in time of peace ought to be sufficient for the whole expenditure and interest of the public debt of the nation.

Mexico, November 1843. R. C. WYLLIE.
(To be Continued.)

TO THE EDITOR OF THE POLYNESIAN:—

Sir,—The poetry of Allegiance is that "no man can throw off his native country;" but, the stern fact and the Law of Nations as recognized at the present day, is far otherwise in the strict sense of that expression. It would be more consonant with the law and the fact, to transpose that ancient adage by saying,—"some countries cannot throw off their native subjects under any circumstances;" and, "some countries cannot throw off their subjects, except for the commission of certain crimes."

In republics like those of the United States and Switzerland, where the indefeasible

TABLE NO. 2—REFERRED TO IN OUR NO. 11.

Duties on sundry British Manufactures of chief consumption in Mexico, at the epoch of the following Tariffs.

DUTIES at	1827.		1837.		Internal. 1840 & 41.		1842.		1843.		1844.	
	18½c. va.	12½c. va.	12½c. va.	12½c. va.	Increased Cons. Duty	10 c.	15 c.	15 c.	15 c.	15 c.	15 c.	15 c.
Cotton Shirtings or Madapollams 33 in. 1 va. wide 100 ps. a 30 yds.—3000 yds. 3240 ps. cost in Manchester, 8s 6d per piece, £42 10												
Import duty,	\$ 607 50	\$ 405	\$ 405	\$ 405	ct 405	ct 324	ct 436	ct 486	ct 486	ct 486	ct 486	ct 486
Additional duty,	15 19	13 50	13 50	13 50	ct 13	ct 12	ct 19	ct 16	ct 16	ct 16	ct 16	ct 16
Rail-Road duty,					ct 50	ct 96	ct 88	ct 32	ct 32	ct 32	ct 32	ct 32
Internation duty,	75 94	67 50	67 50	67 50	ct 67	ct 64	ct 97	ct 81	ct 81	ct 81	ct 81	ct 81
Consumption duty,	75 94	67 50	67 50	67 50	ct 202	ct 80	ct 97	ct 81	ct 81	ct 81	ct 81	ct 81
	774 57	553 50	553 50	553 50	ct 688	ct 492	ct 738	ct 696	ct 696	ct 696	ct 696	ct 696
Printed Cambrics—9-8 Prints—1 va. wide, 100 ps. ea. 24 yds.—2400 yds.—2592 va. cost in Manchester, 10s 6d, £52 10s												
Import duty,	\$ 405	\$ 324	\$ 324	\$ 324	inc. cons. duty.	233 28	336 96	336 96	336 96	336 96	336 96	336 96
Additional duty,	10 12	10 80	10 80	10 80	ct 10	ct 9	ct 13	ct 11	ct 11	ct 11	ct 11	ct 11
Rail-Road duty,					ct 80	ct 33	ct 48	ct 23	ct 23	ct 23	ct 23	ct 23
Internation do.,	50 62	54	54	54	ct 54	ct 66	ct 96	ct 46	ct 46	ct 46	ct 46	ct 46
Consumption do.,	50 62	54	54	54	ct 162	ct 66	ct 96	ct 56	ct 56	ct 56	ct 56	ct 56
	516 36	442 80	442 80	442 80	ct 550	ct 354	ct 512	ct 482	ct 482	ct 482	ct 482	ct 482
Colored Cotton Handkerchiefs 33 in ps., 1 yard wide, 100 doz, cost in Glasgow 5s, £25												
Import duty,	\$ 93 75	\$ 150	\$ 150	\$ 150	inc. cons. duty.	72	86 40	156	156	156	156	156
Additional duty,	2 34	5	5	5	ct 5	ct 2	ct 3	ct 5	ct 5	ct 5	ct 5	ct 5
Rail-Road duty,					ct 80	ct 83	ct 92	ct 10	ct 10	ct 10	ct 10	ct 10
Internation do.,	11 72	25	25	25	ct 25	ct 76	ct 96	ct 26	ct 26	ct 26	ct 26	ct 26
Consumption do.,	11 72	25	25	25	ct 75	ct 40	ct 28	ct 26	ct 26	ct 26	ct 26	ct 26
	119 53	205	205	205	ct 255	ct 109	ct 131	ct 223	ct 223	ct 223	ct 223	ct 223
100 pieces Hempen Linen 33 inches in width—each 40 yards—4000 yards—4320 va.—cost in Manchester, say Dundee, 4½d, £75												
Import duty,	\$ 360	\$ 345 60	\$ 345 60	\$ 345 60	inc. cons. duty.	216	259 20	345 60	345 60	345 60	345 60	345 60
Additional duty,	9	11 52	11 52	11 52	ct 11	ct 8	ct 10	ct 11	ct 11	ct 11	ct 11	ct 11
Rail-Road duty,					ct 52	ct 64	ct 32	ct 23	ct 23	ct 23	ct 23	ct 23
Internation duty,	45	57 60	57 60	57 60	ct 57	ct 43	ct 51	ct 57	ct 57	ct 57	ct 57	ct 57
Consumption duty,	45	57 60	57 60	57 60	ct 172	ct 43	ct 51	ct 57	ct 57	ct 57	ct 57	ct 57
	459	472 32	472 32	472 32	ct 587	ct 328	ct 393	ct 495	ct 495	ct 495	ct 495	ct 495
Flaxen Linens of coarse texture, 33 in. wide—1 va. wide—100 ps. ea. 35 yds.—3500 yds.—3780 va. cost in Dundee 7d per yard, £102 1s 8d												
Import duty,	\$ 393 75	\$ 340 20	\$ 340 20	\$ 340 20	inc. cons. duty.	226 80	272 16	340 20	340 20	340 20	340 20	340 20
Additional duty,	9 84	11 34	11 34	11 34	ct 11	ct 9	ct 10	ct 11	ct 11	ct 11	ct 11	ct 11
Rail-Road duty,					ct 34	ct 14	ct 21	ct 22	ct 22	ct 22	ct 22	ct 22
Internation duty,	49 22	56 70	56 70	56 70	ct 56	ct 45	ct 54	ct 56	ct 56	ct 56	ct 56	ct 56
Consumption duty,	49 22	56 70	56 70	56 70	ct 170	ct 45	ct 54	ct 56	ct 56	ct 56	ct 56	ct 56
	502 03	464 94	464 94	464 94	ct 578	ct 344	ct 413	ct 487	ct 487	ct 487	ct 487	ct 487
Woolen Broadcloth, 58 in. wide—1½ va. wide—20 ps. ea. 28 yds.—560 yds.—605 va. cost in Leeds, 8s 6d yd. £238												
Import duty,	\$ 1500 25	\$ 1059 30	\$ 1059 30	\$ 1059 30	inc. cons. duty.	847 20	1016 64	1059	1059	1059	1059	1059
Additional duty,	37 51	35 30	35 30	35 30	ct 35	ct 33	ct 20	ct 35	ct 35	ct 35	ct 35	ct 35
Rail-Road duty,					ct 30	ct 89	ct 66	ct 70	ct 70	ct 70	ct 70	ct 70
Internation duty,	187 53	176 50	176 50	176 50	ct 176	ct 169	ct 203	ct 176	ct 176	ct 176	ct 176	ct 176
Consumption duty,	187 53	176 50	176 50	176 50	ct 529	ct 169	ct 203	ct 176	ct 176	ct 176	ct 176	ct 176
	1912 82	1447 30	1447 30	1447 30	ct 1800	ct 1287	ct 1485	ct 1517	ct 1517	ct 1517	ct 1517	ct 1517

To explain why the high duties of 1827 were maintained for full 10 years, it is necessary to state, that during that period Government frequently made heavy discounts, at times exceeding 25 to 30 per cent. to parties who paid duties in advance—cash down—which was an indirect reduction of the duties.